

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the above-identified application. Claim 1 has been amended so as to recite that a radiation sensitive acid generating agent is a sulfonium salt. Support for this feature is found in the specification at page 6, lines 22-25 (which describes "onium salt compounds") and page 7, lines 6-21 and 24-27 which recite various types of sulfonium salt compounds. Support for new claim 7 is found at page 7, line 9 of the specification.

Please Await Submission of Comparative Data before Issuing Office Action

It is respectfully requested that the Patent Examiner please await receipt of the comparative test data which applicants intend to submit within about two months of the filing of this RCE. At least if the Examiner intends to issue an Office Action, it is requested that the Examiner not issue any "final" Office Action (which would be improper in any case in view of the changes to the present claims) and that the Examiner contact applicants representative at the telephone number listed below if the Examiner has not yet received the comparative test data.

Failure of Barclay '086 to Disclose Sulfonium Salt

It is submitted that Barclay '086 (USP 6,492,086) fails to disclose use of sulfonium salts as radiation sensitive acid generating agents, such that the present claims clearly distinguish over Barclay '086.

Conclusion

It is submitted for the reasons stated above that the present claims define patentable subject matter such that this application should now be placed condition for allowance.

If any questions arise regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, Andrew D. Meikle (Reg. No. 32,868), in the Washington Metropolitan Area at the phone number listed below.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of one (1) month to January 20, 2005 (Inauguration Day - USPTO closed), in which to file a reply to the Office Action. The required fee of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees

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required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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